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the martlet

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Tourist train steams over plan for commuters

By Patti Edgar

Grab a coffee, flip on your laptop and enjoy the lull of a train while you roll into Victoria from your up-Island bedroom community where houses are cheap and everyone you pass on the street says hello.

That is the vision a group of Vancouver Islanders have for the rail line that stretches from Victoria to Courtenay. They want to wrestle the contracts for passenger and freight services on the line away from VIA Rail, which runs a once-a-day service that doesn't suit most nine-to-five workers, and bring the railway under community control.

But a new passenger steam train service described as the Empress Hotel on wheels might mark the end of the line for the Vancouver Island Railway Society's plans. Earlier this month Rail America, which runs most of the line, announced a deal with Jersey-based Iron Horse Enterprises that would bring as many as 100,000 tourists a year to the Island to ride the rails in first class comfort. The society fears the tourist trains, set to role in July 2000, will take passengers away from VIA's rail service.

"This could be the straw that breaks the camel's back," said society chair Bruce Tunstall, who feels the pressure the society has put on VIA is the only thing keeping the federally-subsidized corporation from closing the Vancouver Island route. "VIA could say 'to hell with it' and take their federal subsidy with them."

That $2million-a-year subsidy is just what the society is trying to get their hands on. For six years they have been asking the federal government for permission to form a rail authority, similar to airport authorities in cities like Victoria and Vancouver, that would take over both the subsidy and VIA's contract to run services on the Island. So far the response from Transport Canada has been positive, says Tunstall.

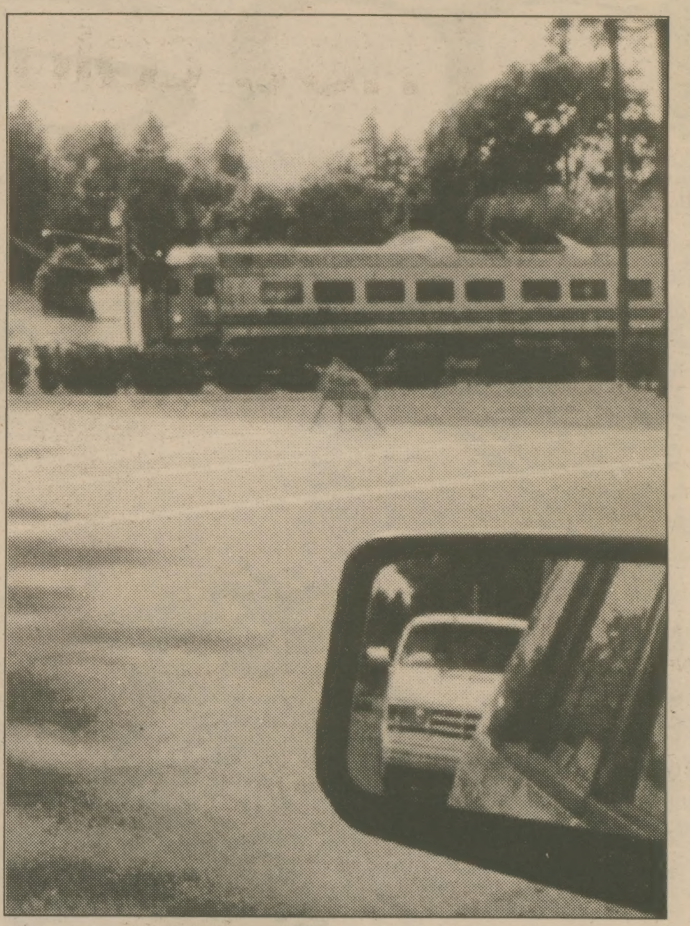
"We believe there is room for both (the rail authority and Iron Horse) but we want to have the subsidy in place before VIA pulls out. We're convinced that if they leave before an authority is in place we'll never get the subsidy back."

However, Malcolm Andrews, a spokesperson for VIA Rail, said the company isn't leaving Vancouver Island. Iron Horse's tourist trains could only increase the number of passengers on their trains and the viability of the service because the company would pour money into marketing the service that VIA Rail just doesn't have, said Andrews.

"In instances where new players come into the market, our experience is that it tends to increase awareness of rail travel and over time increase the total size of the pie."

That promise holds little comfort for Tunstall, who considers the company nothing short of inept for saying the route isn't, and will never be, a moneymaker. If his society can take control of the freight and passenger service, he says it will focus on making Island rail travel affordable and convenient. Moreover, by getting people out of their cars, it would be environmentally friendly too.

Until then, commuters will have to put the laptop under the seat and grip the coffee mug between their legs as they battle traffic on the Island Highway every weekday morning and afternoon.



Martlet photo by Patti Edgar

International women need more services

by Max Dempster

For many people, starting university is a stressful experience. But imagine how it would feel if you were transported to Spain or Tanzania.

Kal Nelson, a University of Victoria student from the West Indies, knows a bit about how that would feel.

Her experiences at UVic prompted her to conduct a study on the needs of international women students in British Columbia. The results were as varied as the women who completed the survey, but there were some common concerns.

"They pay significantly higher tuition rates and we were wondering if, considering the difficulties of a new country, culture and language, their needs were being met," said Shawnnah Farkas, the Women's Centre coordinator, who used the results to compile a report on how foreign women find B.C.'s academic climate.

According to her report, many of the women who responded to the survey say they found it hard to relate to male professors here because of cultural differences. As well, some of the foreign students at UVic are university faculty members in their own country. Some of them have warned fellow foreign students not to reveal their academic status, as some Canadian professors feel threatened by this information.

Canadians have little tolerance for their imperfect use of English, said some of the women surveyed. People are reluctant to slow their speech or use simple language so they can be included in conversations.

"They need more genuine friendship from classmates. They say they tend to get hot and cold expressions of friendship from Canadian students in class," said Nelson.

Another problem is racial stereotyping. Foreign student Tyng-Wey Fan said she often feels other students have a preconceived notion of her personality.

"Most of the time, they (Canadian students) assume I am quiet and really passive. This is how they think I should be as an Asian woman. They are very shocked to think I am a feminist," said Fan.

Another common stereotype about foreign students is that their parents or their government is providing all the financial support they need. At UVic, foreign students are barred from holding work-study positions, no matter how great their financial need, which many foreign students say is unfair because their tuition fees are much higher than the fees Canadian students are charged.

In addition to the stress of university, some foreign students are refugees and have to deal with bad memories and the worry over relatives they left behind. Many of these students reported that they are reluctant to seek help at university counseling centres because they feel uncomfortable talking to someone who they are not sure will understand their stresses as a foreign student.

Many of the women who responded to the survey had recommendations for how universities can provide better services for foreign students. One idea is sponsoring more multi-cultural events like Mosaic, an arts event at UVic held last winter term. Nelson also recommends UVic provide more funds for international events such as workshops on cultural sensitivity and assertiveness training.

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Board hot, cold over art

BY HEATHER LOGAN

Sometimes the Student Union Building is too colourful for our elected representatives, and sometimes it just isn't colourful enough.

Last month the student society's board of directors voted to ask the building's services committee to consider removing images from a piece of artwork they considered too violent. Just weeks earlier the same board voted to spice up a bland wall in the building with a revolving display dedicated to themselves.

On May 25, the board voted to reserve the north wall by the Cinecenta entrance for a display on the University of Victoria Student Society (UVSS) and the student movement. The wall was left vacant when the Royal Bank automated teller was moved down the hall.

"The concept is a large display case that will chronicle the history of the UVSS," says Chris Moon, director of services. The display would be used as a "communications vehicle" and would be split into two parts, he said.

The first part would be a permanent display designed by members of the board. The second part would be a rotating display that would educate students on student society issues. The board is waiting for a quote from facilities management to see if the project is feasible, he added.

Weeks after approving the SUB art project, the board decided the sculpture hanging above the building's information booth contravenes a UVSS policy in favour of gun control.

Art by Alisdair MacRae, installed in the main foyer of the Student Union Building, is too hot for the SUB.

Martlet photo by Patti Edgar

In April, artist Alisdair MacRae and fellow student Todd Roberts added red and black vinyl adhesives to his plexiglass sculpture depicting images of John Wayne and the words "wanted dead or alive."

Earlier this month, board member John Trueman was leafing through a UVSS policy manual when he realized the references to guns goes against a policy in favour of gun control.

"If we paid for the art and we hang it on the wall we are condoning the words and images. What if it said 'Death to all Jews?'" said Trueman.

MacRae, who had not been contacted by the board, said he was unsure if being asked to remove the images is censorship.

"I don't know how it really goes against or for gun control. It's just an image of a gun."

He plans on changing the images on the sculpture in September regardless of the board's decision.

Sessionals unionize for more pay

BY SARAH DUSTERBECK

A long fight for higher wages and job security for the University of Victoria's sessional lecturers has ended in unionization.

Last month UVic's 450 sessionals joined the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the same organization that represents teaching assistants on campus. A contract is currently under negotiations with the university. Sessional union organizer Michael Tripp said he hopes negotiations will be complete by the end of September.

Tripp expects salary, benefits, and security to be the main issues for sessionals, although thoughts on the issue are purely speculative until all the sessionals are contacted, he said.

"The fact that sessionals are presently difficult to reach means that there's a lot of work to be done if we want to keep the process as democratic as possible," said Tripp.

Within the next week, the union will distribute a newsletter on campus to update people on the details of what to expect from the recent unionization. The newsletter will also contain a questionnaire asking sessionals what priorities they have for negotiations.

The biggest hurdle in the drive for unionization was that sessionals working at least half time were automatically admitted to the faculty association. That membership meant the sessionals were represented by the association in theory, he said.

There's a lot of work to be done if we want to keep the process as democratic as possible

But Tripp said he believes sessional lecturers weren't fairly represented. For instance, the process of appointing instructors to senior positions is highly subjective as seniority and capability have very little to do with who is promoted, he said.

"Some people could be on campus for 10 to 15 years without ever being acknowledged while others seemed to move up very quickly. Those being refused for promotion would often be told 'No' for no apparent reason."

Such was the situation in the Lynne Greenwood case. Greenwood, an instructor in the School of Music, had been at the University for over 20 years without receiving an increase in salary or benefits when she decided to look into the matter from a legal standpoint. Her case was brought before the Labour Relations Board last October in attempt to see if the faculty association was a legitimate union. The case held up the ballot counting on the sessionals union in May.

"Lynne may have lost her case, but ultimately she won," said Tripp. "Her case solidified a lot of thought and pushed the momentum towards unionization."

Tripp says Greenwood's case, combined with the increasing number of sessionals on campus, gave them bargaining power which ultimately helped them win the vote towards unionization.

"Over the years sessionals have begun to be viewed differently from others on campus. Victory is starting to change the vision on campus of sessionals as faculty."

on the spot

How have the changes to telereg & the introduction of webreg affected your registering?

Monica Pearson
4th year Biology

"[Web Reg] notices when you have conflicts in your schedule. If you want a class that has a waitlist–it shows open sections and helps arrange your schedule. It's good for those out of province kids."

Derek Book
3rd year Geography

"Web Reg is cool. It impressed me so much–it was so much easier. Just one click. It makes way more sense."

Stacey Hagerty
4th year History in Art

"I registered from up north. I got cut off on telereg as many times as I did before."

Lawrence Wong
3rd year Pacific Asian Studies

"Telereg is way more convenient. I used both telereg and webreg. It was so much faster. No long distance fee. I registered last year from Taiwan. My grandmother was the only one who saw the long distance bill."

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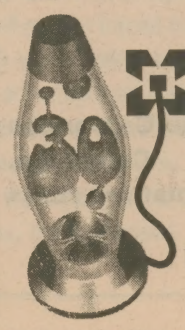

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guest editorial

by Norm Abbey

NOT HERE, NOT THERE, NOT ANYWHERE
Nuclear reactors and nuclear bombs must leave BC

"Nuclear weapons have never been, and will never be, tested at Nanoose," states Liberal Defence Minister Art Eggleton in a recent editorial–knocking down a straw target no one had raised. Eggleton and Fisheries Minister David Anderson are up to their necks in the unprecedented hostile attempt to expropriate 150 square miles of BC in order to accommodate nuclear warheads on nuclear powered submarines which many regard as "floating Chernobyls." Of the 2600 formal objections filed by Churches, First Nations, Labour, Environmental and community organizations from across Canada, not one suggests that atomic bombs are being detonated two miles north of the BC ferry route to Nanaimo.

What Canadians are asking is why allow nuclear bombs into BC at all? We have a right to set reasonable conditions on what goes on in our province, and a responsibility to question policies that put our environment and economy at risk. We expect open discussion of such policies, and straight answers.

Why is there no emergency plan for the nearly three million people who live downwind of this potentially disastrous technology? Why do insurance companies exempt nuclear accidents? Who would clean it up? Who would pay?

Are nuclear bombs at Nanoose necessary–as David Anderson recently suggested–to train Canadian troops on "humanitarian" missions in Yugoslavia?

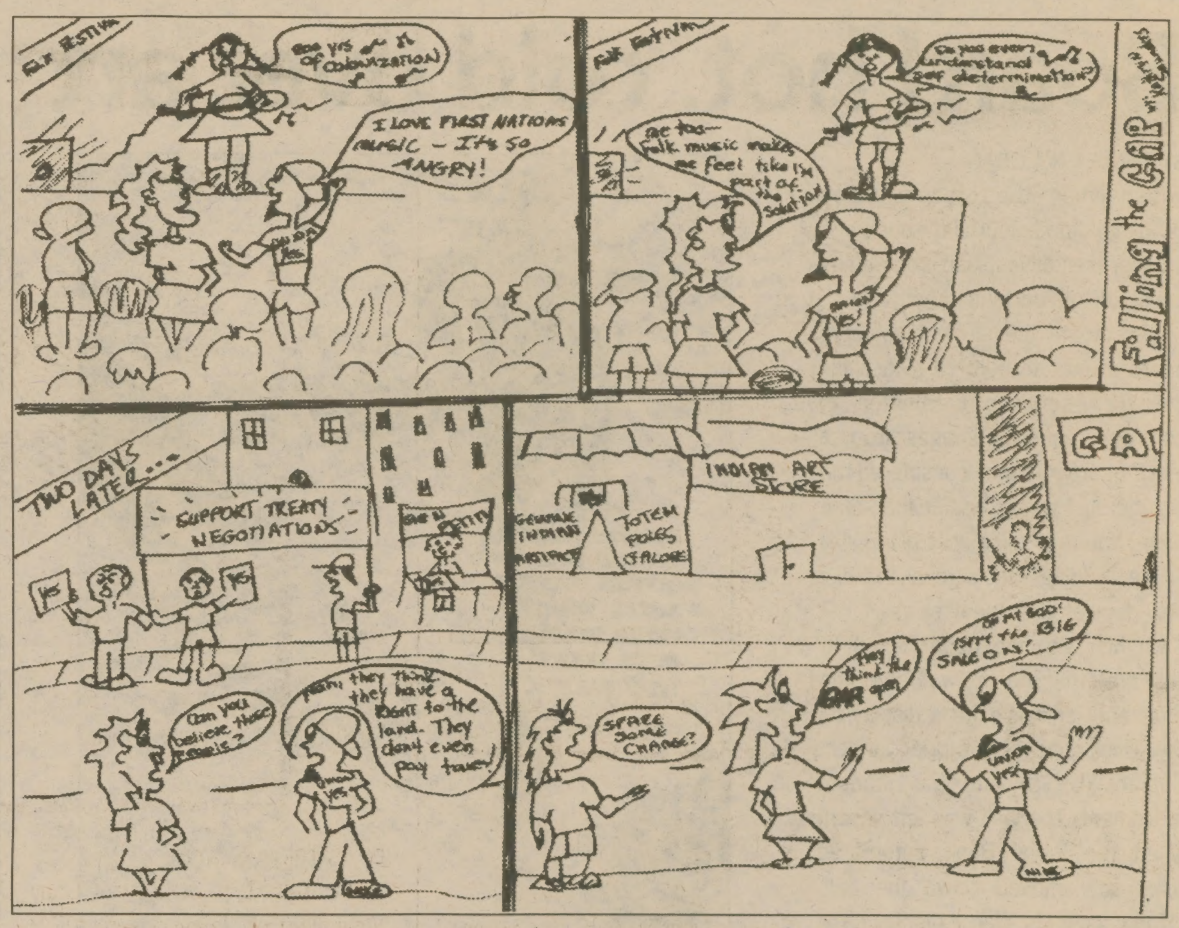
Defending the expropriation in the House of Commons, Mr. Eggleton said on May 25 that "There has never been any problem and there will not be," forgetting the nine reactors and 50 warheads already littering the oceans, including the USS Thresher which sank with all 129 hands and its nuclear propulsion reactor in 1963, and hundreds of subsequent accidents, 'incidents,' collisions, fires, and loss of coolant events. He ignores the $8 million annual subsidy of Nanoose, and research showing that double the current jobs could be generated by alternative non-military uses.

Appallingly, Mr. Eggleton also ignores the 1996 International (World) Court of Justice ruling that use–or even threat–of nuclear bombs is simply illegal, while US policy actually advocates "first-use" of nuclear bombs. And Mr. Eggleton simply denies the longstanding land claim of the Nanoose First Nation who have lived on the area now occupied by the Nanoose test-range for thousands of years, and have been negotiating the claim with BC and Canada since 1992. Eggleton told CBC radio on May 18 that "I am told that there is no claim. Our government lawyers have looked at it, and that is not an issue." Eggleton repeats the words "Canada" or "Canadian" 17 times, but the US Navy's web-site simply describes Nanoose as a branch-plant of Keyport Washington's Underwater Warfare Station; with "Fleet testing and logistics sites located in Nanoose, British Columbia and Hawthorne, Nevada."

While attending APEC in 1997, General Suharto didn't want to check his handguns at the border. The Pentagon doesn't want to part with their nuclear weapons either, but the "neither confirm nor deny" charade seems aimed more at civilians than at some undefined "enemy". It's public knowledge which subs carry nuclear bombs and which ones don't. But in spite of the 1996 World Court ruling and other progress toward nuclear disarmament, weapons systems on Nanoose visitors like the USS Will Rogers and the USS Ohio are actually being upgraded to even more powerful and dangerous D-5 missiles–thereby also increasing the danger of accidental nuclear war.

Ottawa's expropriation of Nanoose to accommodate nuclear bombs has effectively derailed the outstanding report of Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy's all-party nuclear policy review. That 1998 call to eliminate the "political value" of nuclear weapons is now in the ditch. Getting back on track may require ministers Eggleton and Anderson to take the stand as witnesses during the upcoming expropriation "hearings." Canadians appreciate the opportunity to be heard, but also need some straight answers.

Norm Abbey is a director of the Nanoose Conversion Campaign.
<iabbey@alternatives.com>



letters letters

NDP AND CHILD

Editors,

A recent convergence of significant events would indicate that our own provincial NDP has attained the world-class level of the likes of Ferdinand Marcos and Suharto.

The University of Victoria is hosting a symposium on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. These rights include health care and a free education. Yet, provincial health care is in crisis, and the NDP have just announced the closure of schools in the Victoria area. It seems there is no money for such things. At the same time, the NDP's fall guy has pled guilty to channeling funds from charities into the NDP coffers. And, just weeks after the NDP make a gift of public land to MacMillan Bloedel, which had promised to cease clear-cut logging practices, MB is to be taken over by Weyerhaeuser—a multinational giant which makes no such promise. The NDP have given their blessing to the sell out; but when we remember that in 1993 (just before announcing that the Clayoquot would be logged) the NDP bought $50 million worth of MB shares, now worth 25% more, their position isn't surprising.

To borrow a phrase from Liberace: The NDP are crying for the children —all the way to the bank.

Regards,
James L. Tucker

IN MEMORY OF GLEN CLARK

With knees all a-tremble
he took on the mantle
of the Non-Democratic Party;
of his foul predecessor
he proved not the lesser
and revelled in duplicity.

They shared a moustache
and a lack of panache,
beyond this we couldn't be certain;
but it didn't take long
'fore his tainted song
predicted the final curtain.

MacBlo shares and watersheds,
expensive knives and puzzled
feds,
elected on a false pretense,
he really didn't stand a chance.
With bladder a-burst,
and bowel the worst,
he languished in Emergency;
but the system was loaded,
and his wallet too bloated,
and no one could find his ID.

So here on the sea bed
he lies unlamented,
'neath the waters of Nanoose Bay;
the land wouldn't take him,
and the salmon won't have him,
'cause no one could show him the way.

James L. Tucker

BOB FOR MAYOR

Editors,

It is auspicious that four months before the 1999 municipal elections, Mayor Cross and his council majority have publicly acknowledged what most of us have known for some time: the ill-concieved multiplex deal is dead. We now have an opportunity to see exactly who on Victoria City Council has acted with the foresight, integrity and leadership that will be required of this city's next mayor.

It has been my pleasure, over the past few months to get to know Bob Friedland as a fellow negotiator in crafting this city's progressive electoral alliance between the Green Party and the Victoria Civic Electors.

It is safe to say that being members of different political parties with distinct and different philosophies, Bob and I don't agree on everything. But in looking for the qualities that will be needed in this city's next mayor–openness, honesty and the willingness to speak the truth, regardless of popular orthodoxy–I am convinced that Bob Friedland is the best person for the job.

In light of the recent history of progressive politics in Victoria, I think it is vitally important that those of us who see the need for a change at city hall show the leadership, solidarty and unity that voters should expect of us. I hope that Bob Friedland takes the plunge and decides to run for mayor; he can count on my support.

Yours Truly,
Stuart Parker
BC Green Party Leader

the martlet

"flying without feet for 51 years"

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Maceo loosens up Victoria

BY MIGUEL STROTHER

With dusty black hair and a jaw hooked from the life-time-taste of the reed, Maceo Parker waged playful war with a trombone player named Greg Boyer at Legends Nightclub Tuesday night.

For three hours the P-funk master Parker, his six-member band, manager, and son, flared intensity into a crowd that responded to the performer's not so subtle coaxing. It took a bit of time but Victoria got down to what was called "the event of the year" by Legends nightclub. Who could help it?

Parker's rendition of "Oh, Canada" in solo-saxophone lamentation broke the waves of funk-a-delic, horn-based power he and his band fingered, plunked, strummed, squeaked, busted, and plain-old pounded out during the epic hours of funked-out jazz.

As the band weaved their notes, Sweet Charles, the shadow of James Brown, slid some plain cold-killer dance moves behind the shaded glasses of funk, a movement drawn from jazz and soul in the early seventies that has changed the way that music is played and preformed the world over.

The tours only is intended to promote Funkoverload, an album recently nominated for Indie record of the year, but will only make two Canadian stops, Victoria and Vancouver.

In an age where it seems performers are all to willing to plan their encores in 10-minute intervàls, Parker came out for a 40-minute set to add to his already 140-minute show.

That encore would encompass a weeks work for lesser performers.

With sweat pouring down their sweet suits, the musicians drew from Parker's lust, developing their trade with a master a preparing to carry the art of soul-based music into the next millennium.

You can see it in Parker's smile as he celebrates the skill of his band when breaking from his own powerful play, this guy could go..... will go forever.

Wish you were here.

Beating folk senseless

press photo

BY PATRICK BEATTIE

The Bill: Tom Glenn with Lindy Vopenfjord on drums "Beating Folk Senseless" and opening act Bushpilot. Thursday's Sports Bar. Saturday July 3rd.

The Assignment: To write a (loosely) journalistic composition quelled from ideas thought in the presence of Tom Glenn and his music.

The Assumption: That said composition will be related in some way to Tom Glenn and /or his music.

The Review: The Contact and I arrive at Thursday's where a lively crowd is engaging in modest carousal. Bushpilot comes on and plays some pretty well written, well executed folk-pop songs about small-town-growing-up-heartbreak-coming-of-age-experience (and one song about hitting Neil Young in the ass with a snowball.) Not altogether unpleasant. Rousing applause.

So then on comes Tom Glenn, armed with acoustic guitar, vocal chords and Lindy on drums. Tom is a Victoria native who has been living in Toronto the last few years making a living busking and generally playing around town. For this one-off show in the city of his youth I guess he feels it's only fitting to open with what he informs the audience is his "17 minute freeform epic 'Soundcheck'." Tom has an impressive variety of songs covering the hard-hitting social commentary ("if there's a Father's Day and a Mother's Day, how come there's no day for kids?"), exploring the gospel tradition with "God Invented the Weekend," as well as the protest song "Down with the UPS." Surreal lines like "I started out as a clown, I'll finish as a traffic cop" and his modest comment to the audience "I am a joke, but it is a funny one" were nicely offset by some fine covers of the Rolling Stones, The Band and Right Said Fred (a cappella version of "I'm Too Sexy").

In the ranks of folk singing Tom's vocal stylings lean more towards the "half sing/half bark" school, with a few tenuously strung together melodies to keep the purists happy.

His guitar playing is equally blunt (no elegant running up and down the neck here, folks), but it all seems to work for him. Unfortunately, young master Vopenfjord seemed to be having a wee bit of trouble keeping in sync with Tom. Occaisionally things got awkward but they managed to keep the tunes relatively tidy, that is they generally started and stopped at the same times, the middle sections being more open to freer interpretations.

All this might start smelling like a bad review, but the looseness of the show seemed to fit Tom like a nice wool toque. In late October. On a street corner in Toronto. The guy's a busker and it shows, but, hey, he's good at what he does: playing by the seat of his pants, and engaging in heavy audience interaction, ready to respond to anything the folks watching might throw at him (in both senses) without missing a beat.

The the best things about the show:

1. Gets the audience to sing "I wish I was an asshole" in a unified falsetto, as well as having them all count backward from sixty.

2. Tom's mom was there and she was wearing a t-shirt with the word "DOMINATRIX" on it.

If you want to see Tom pay again in the near future, fly to Toronto and walk around downtown where he'll be busking.

blood on the dancefloor

Popping my folk fest cherry

BY KATHRYN SAUNDERS

First of all I would like to say that up until last weekend I hated cherries. With a passion. Even looking at the word c-h-e-r-r-y made me nauseated. It is such a cute word, for such a distasteful fruit. That was until I bit into a delicious organically grown cherry at the 22nd annual Vancouver Folk Fest. What kind of concert is this? I asked myself. Organically grown fruit stands? Falafels and Indian food plates, veggie dogs and veggie burgers. What kind of heaven is this. DEEP FRIED BREAD! Was someone reading my secret dreams of consuming the highest fat content products on earth.

Well it seems that the organizers of the Vancouver Folk Fest had all of my food fantasies available. Did I mention the Pavlova? A soft meringue covered in fresh whip cream and blueberries, strawberries and even the dreaded cherries?

Oh yes there was music too. I was so overwhelmed by the food that I almost forgot my purpose–to experience the Vancouver Folk Fest through virgin eyes, ears and stomach. I planned my attack. Kinnie Starr and Veda Hille at 10 a.m. along with...who's this Lucie Idlout on the line-up? Well I had to investigate. Lucie Idlout, as it turns out, was a kick-ass in your face Inuk singer. She overwhelmed the crowd with her deep, loud and penetrating sounds. Her songs reflect her experiences growing up in the North, poor and native. She rocked all over the Vancouver Folk Fest. With three performances on Saturday, by the afternoon she had formed a devout following of fans eager to hear whatever she wanted to say. Her cd was available. With only 3 tracks, it was $11.00 I'd spend again. If you can find her go see her, you will never see folk music quite the same way again.

Another surprise for me was the spoken work offered by Vancouver's East Side poet "laureate" Bud Osborne. You wanna hear fuckin' angry? Listen to Bud. People were down right frightened by him. His performance on Saturday afternoon at stage three under the title "I'm not Mad, I'm Angry" left people stunned. It's a folk fest people! What did you want to hear, that the world is a happy fun place to live? I think all of you were looking for the pop music festival. Get lost I say, the truth ain't pretty. Bud's words spoke the truth about the war on drugs being the war on the poor. Even at the folk fest not everyone wanted to hear his message. His powerful message was that everyone would have to take some responsibility for the oppression of the poor, it meant acknowledging that junkies have rights too. Judging from the reaction of the idiot next to me ("well no one forced them to take up the bottle") some folks weren't ready for Bud. All in all a fine festival. A lot of lesbians. As I said, a fine event. There was a weird kind of energy though. Folk music for me means the voice of the people, the underclass, the working class, the oppressed. It's their stories that should be on the agenda. I did find that the unfortunate white middle class status quo was overly well represented among festival goers. It could have something to do with the $110.00 price tag to get in for the weekend.

Kinnie Starr and Jeet K on Stage 5: "I'm not mad, I'm angry"

Martlet photo by Christina Harris

I know, I know. You can volunteer and get in free. Once again poor people have to work for what the rich seem to deserve? So if you're poor and want to go to next year's folk festival, volunteer positions are available. Maybe you'll even get the fine job of cleaning the toilet.

The many colours of artist Siahaan

BY SARAH DUSTERBECK

It takes me a minute before I realize that international artist/activist Semsar Siahaan is the unassuming man passing out pamphlets to the onlookers at his opening exhibit on Wednesday night. This highly acclaimed and well-respected painter and sculptor carries a handful of prints of some of his many works and is even generous enough to offer me one when I query him about them. I was instantly drawn in by the myriad of vibrant colours used in most of his works. According to Mr. Siahaan, Indonesians use lots of colour in their artwork. Born and raised in Indonesia, the artist has traveled widely and exhibited his works at galleries throughout a number of countries including Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, and Australia. Currently he resides in Canada and hopes to make it his home.

***Women Workers between Factory and Prison*, 1994 by Semsar Siahaan**

In addition to his lifelong work as an artist, Mr. Siahaan has also co-founded a number of Non-Governmental Agencies (NGOs) which have set out to fight for human rights issues in Indonesia. His work as a humanitarian is not limited to his home country, however, for he has fought for important issues in several countries. Most notably is his work as an activist of women's rights.

"Some people call me a feminist," he said. And much of his artwork is devoted to depicting the inequalities suffered by women. Although Mr. Siahaan claims that each individual painting contains its own meaning, he also asserts that there are some commonalities which exist in all his works. Inequality, persecution and domination are recurrent themes. The title of his exhibit, "Self, Humanity, and Nature" aptly describes what his art represents. Many of his works are self-portraits, although in almost all his paintings the image of himself is merely one figure among a collage of images. His work also depicts the opposing sides of human nature. We see beauty and ugliness, hatred and love, peace and war, discord and harmony. His paintings can often be described as political, and while some contain images that represent broad-based issues such as torture and inequality, others refer to more specific events. In one mural, for instance, which is entitled *A Self-Portrait with Black Orchid*, which stands about 10 feet tall, I noticed the word "reformation" printed amidst the chaos of this striking oil canvass. Mr. Siahaan says this refers to the student movement for reform.

The final aspect of his works is nature, and Siahaan said that the images depicted in his recent paintings have been heavily influenced by Canada's natural environment. I noticed, for instance, that many of his paintings/drawings contained what looked like tornadoes or whirlwinds. Siahaan said that these were inspired by the fact that Canada is so windy. Barren tree branches are another common image in his works. Siahaan describes this image as being a "branch like hands," and indeed the long, sinuous branches do resemble the fingers of an elderly person. All of his works are engaging and thought-provoking, and can be analyzed for what they are meant to represent, or simply enjoyed for their surface beauty.

Currently, Semsar Siahaan is painting at UVic under the invitation of the Visual Arts Departmen. In addition to his exhibit in the Maltwood Museum, which runs from July 14 to the 29, his works can be seen at the Open Space Gallery downtown. This exhibit runs from July 9 through until August 7.

Pop art on Moss St.

BY JESSICA WEIRMIER

Who would have thought that art could draw so many of Victoria's population out on a sunny Saturday afternoon? For the last 12 years the Moss Street Paint-In has done exactly that. The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria pulled off another successful celebration of community and art on July 17. Seventy-one participants stretched from the foot of Fort Street all the way down to Dallas Road. Obviously, most of the art on display was painted; however, there was a good deal of three dimensional and interactive art at this year's Paint-In. An example of interactive art was on the corner of Fairfield and Moss Street. Recent University of Victoria fine arts graduate Alisdair MacRae cooled off overheated Paint-In pedestrians with his Moss Street Paint-In Piece. For some, the art work was for a much needed walk through a water spray gate. The purpose of the spray was to help wet the skin for the free tattoos that made the ensemble. The tattoos were standard cheesy lick-ons without the LSD that usually accompanied tattoos given freely on street corners across from elementary schools.

UVic grad Beth Campbell with "Soft Drink" at the Moss Street Paint-In
photo by Jessica Weirmier

After heading north from the makeshift tattoo parlor, another UVic Fine Arts graduate, Beth Campbell, hung her Soft Drink pieces from a tree. Frozen to long, draping material is chilled pop. As the soft drinks melt, it saturates the material and the familiar scent of Cream Soda, Crush, Mountain Dew, Grape, Coke and Doctor Pepper wafted softly by. One Paint-In observer noted that these sculptures give new meaning to the term "Pop Art."

UVic art history graduate Chris Richardson enjoyed people watching at the Paint-In more than most of the art itself. He liked that a lot of "people who aren't exposed to much art get a chance to come out and see it all." The most important part of reviewing the Paint-In's is, of course, the beer garden. Early in the afternoon-approximately 3:32 pm-the Lighthouse Brewing Company was not too busy. Line-ups were at a maximum of three deep at any time. My motto is 'always beat the crowds whenever there is outdoor beer.' After a gruelling seven block march under the mid-day sun (that's a lot of walking for art) Lighthouse's Race Rocks Ale never tasted better. This year's 12th Moss Street Paint-In has me anxiously anticipating next year's 13th.

TheatreSKAM kamps it up

BY TASHA MARSDEN

Are you too old for summer camp?

Theatre SKAM trades in canoe trips and horseback riding for wacky westerns and bingo dabbing during its third annual "Summer Kamp."

For the final six weeks of the summer–from the end of July to early September– the small company will perform four Canadian alternative works for tourists and locals alike.

photo by Lawrence McLAgan

Amiel Gladstone, Lucas Myers and Matthew Payne bring The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr [Abridged] back for the fourth run, a hilarious jaunt through 37 plays in less than 100 minutes.

For the economically depressed, SKAM revs up a free performance in the backseat of a '78 Volare in The Car Shows.

Playwright, Sean Dixon, makes his SKAM debut with the tale of Billy Nothin'–a city boy who slides into wild west living like a pair of ass-grabbin' Wranglers. Dress warm, as SKAMsters bring this showing outdoors to the patio of a Yates Street eatery.

Finally, Bingo! reflects SKAM's flair for theatrical innovation. While the audience dabs away at score cards, actors await the calling of the magic numbers. This sets off a unique mix of political, satirical and comedic plays each week.

SKAM offers the rare opportunity to see local talent bring Canadian scripts alive in new venues. You've already seen the summer blockbusters, get out and try something different.

For further information, call the Theatre SKAM hotline at FUN-SKAM (386-7526).

Imprints leaves an impression

BY JESSICA WEIRMIER

According to the artist Rob Vickery, "Imprints" reflects a journey of many paths of creation: painting, mixed-media drawing, photography and hand-built ceramic forms. The viewer is honoured by being allowed to discover what resonates as true on a personal, inner-most level. The artist asks only for these works to be viewed with an open heart. That assertion immediately aroused suspicion. Why would the artist request that? My brain struggled briefly with prejudice, and won. Overall, I was the most struck by the diversity in the pieces shown and the good use of contrasting colours. Vickery seems to take an almost Chagall-like approach to some of his pieces. A prime example of this would be the painting *Maya a rendition of a busy city*. The contrasting bright colours caught my attention. This technique of using bright colours was also very effective with the drawing, *Inner Peoples*. The latter piece was bright without being overpowering-what some would call "less is more." However colour is not necessarily the utmost of importance, demonstrated by the peaceful serenity of the black and grey and white drawing called *Lilia*.

The ceramic pieces were the stars of the show. *Seaworms* and *Pod #3* were by far the most intriguing pieces. I am deeply curious at what inspired such fascinating works of art. My open heart was dead in envy that I was never able to make anything that cool in the art classes taken in high school. The other pieces that were shown were interesting but did not have the je ne sais quoi of the aforementioned pieces. They were much like the sort of eye candy that my home is filled with. The photography did seem to lack what the other medias did not. Perhaps I am jaded when it comes to nature photos, as my dad was fond of taking ever so many. So after a while it was hard for me to distinguish the Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho from the Canadian Rockies from the Swiss Alps. There is a point to this rant: nature is beautiful and should not be photographed excessively. One photograph worth mentioning was called *Quiet Comtemplation* [sic]. It is a photo of the sun glinting off the water in a way that resembles the stars glinting in the sky. One thing that struck me about the whole show was that the artist seemed to have tried to take intangible emotions and give them life, kind of like the concept of a spirit becoming physical by entering a body. Not knowing the artist, it is hard for me to say if this what the artist intended. Not that it matters really because art is up to the individual anyway, no? "Imprints" ran at the Community Arts Council of Greater Victoria from July 1 to 17, 1999.

Vikes say goodbye and move on

BY ANGELA SWAN

The Vikes men's basketball team is in need of immediate restructuring for the upcoming season following the departure of lead player Eric Hinrichsen.

Along with teammates Colin Martin and Raphael Chillous-Carter, the six-foot-six forward has finished his five years of eligibility for the university team. Hinrichsen will now be moving on to play professional basketball in Belgium.

"We will never be able to replace an outstanding player like Eric, but I'm extremely thankful that he has left such a tremendous work ethic for the players," said head coach Guy Vetrie. "Eric has always had the ability to lead people by example and his hard work and dedication are just what our team needs to learn from."

Hinrichsen has won the Canadian Interuniversity Athletics Union (CIAU) player-of-the-year award twice in his career. He also won the CIAU and Canada West rookie-of-the-year awards. This season, Hinrichsen placed second in field-goal percentage and finished third in scoring for Canada West.

"Eric won the top rebounder for Canada West this year and was in the top ten rebounders for CIAU. In my opinion I think he could well be the top rebounder for CIAU of all time," said Allison Markin, public relations officer for Athletics and Recreation at UVic.

Hinrichsen played for his full five-year term with the Vikes and led them to four out of five national championship tournaments.

"Eric added to the winning tradition," said Guy Vetrie. "I've coached the Vikes for 10 years and I feel that the game is all about attempting to provide a position. Eric did that with outstanding vigor and he will be deeply missed."

Simon Ibel, former manager of the Vikes, said, "The team is definitely changing for this season, regardless of the past history of the Vikes top scoring players. The team is going to be a lot younger now and it will take a lot of work and dedication to establish a solid winning team."

But the Vikes received a few gifts from the transfer fairy this off-season, receiving two B.C. homegrown veterans from the States. Sandy Bissaro, formerly of Portland State University, and Etienne Orr-Ewing, playing the last two seasons in a junior college in Kansas, will attend UVic in the fall, and reunite with former teammate and Vikes vet Keith Bustard. All three graduated from Vancouver's Kitsilano High and contributed to two provincial Senior Championships and two Junior Championships in their high school years.

"All three of them have a winning record," said Vetrie. "Bissaro and Orr-Ewing are tremendous assets to our program. It's difficult for any coach to speculate as to how the players will do, but I'm confident in their abilities."

In addition, there are a few proven Vikes who will be returning to play in the fall. Point-guard Ally Wilmot rejoins the Vikes this season after a year-long hiatus, and Jamie Blake returns to the playing roster following this season's activity as a red-shirt. The two will add to the veteran nucleus of forward Aaron Buckham and point-guard Steve 'Steveball' McDonald.

According to Vetrie, the Vikes will start training in the near future and will be focused on maintaining a winning team, despite the changes among the players.

"Coaching is always a challenge," said Vetrie. "I welcome the opportunity to support and help to mold another winning team with new faces on the court."

Eric Hinrichsen playing for the Vikes

Martlet photo by Ryan Lash

the Money ball

the Money ball is a new, opinionated column of dialogue from the sporting world's loudest and most illustrious duo–Booch and Mr. Morgan.

recorded by the Martlet's Craig Battle

Mr. Morgan: With only the Belgium event left on the World Cup Mountain biking circuit, Victoria's own Alison Sydor is on top of the standings.

Booch: Woo-hah. Sydor's got the title.

Morg: Not yet, she doesn't.

Booch: Pssh.

Morg: What?

Booch: Pssh. She won last year, and it's all but packaged this year.

Morg: Maybe. But Norway's Gunn-Rita Dahle is within 100 points of stealing the crown.

Booch: Pssh. The Dutch don't even wear deodorant.

Morg: Quit it with the "pssh"... and that's Holland.

Booch: Who?

Morg: Dutch people are from Holland.

Booch: Right. They don't shave either.

Morg: So?

Booch: Wind resistance.

Morg: Pssh. Dahle's on a tear. Sydor barely finished the last race before she collapsed with her feet in the pedals, and even then she finished third to Dahle's first.

Booch: Ally's toying with her. She told me.

Morg: Did not.

Booch: Oh yeah, we're tight. She's building dramatic tension–movie rights and stuff.

Morg: Whatever. She needs to take gold in Belgium to ensure a World Cup victory, and Dahle's no pushover.

Booch: That's not what I heard.

Morg: My call: even. It's a toss-up for the crown.

Booch: Bah humbug. Dahle will go down in the first round.

Morg: It's not boxing.

Booch: Sydor takes the belt in a walk.

Fun 'n games at Gorge Waterway

BY SANDRA DYER

A great way to re-experience downtown Victoria is to kayak through the Gorge and Inner Harbour. The Gorge Kayaking Centre has recently started renting kayaks for on-site or take-away use.

I went to the Centre one Wednesday night accompanied by two moderately experienced kayakers. At first we had trouble finding the rental office, which is in a small portable away from the dock, but once we found it, we were assisted by Laura Milligan, employee extraordinaire.

You might have to do a bit of lifting if you decide to check it out. There was no one else there that could help with getting the kayaks down from the boathouse to the water. To avoid this problem, try to make reservations. The only catch? There was no one answering the phone when we had attempted to make ours that morning.

Laura assisted us with adjusting the kayaks and provided us with some tips on the really tough part–getting in. We had all done a little kayaking before, but if you haven't, there are lessons available. It doesn't take very long to get the hang of it.

Once we were set, we headed to the Inner Harbour, paddling under the Bay and Johnson Street Bridges. There was a lot of traffic, with a tug, sail boats, the harbour ferry, dragon boats and skullers (rowing teams) passing by. Make sure you don't cut off the skullers! We discovered that they can't stop very fast. Kayaks are very manoeuvrable but you need to get used to the rudders, which are controlled by pedals inside the kayak.

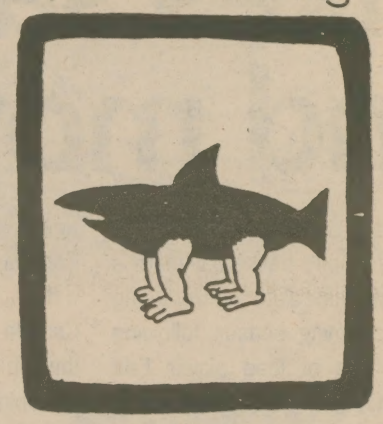
It was the first time I had ever seen the Inner Harbour from the water. All the familiar sights and sounds seemed entirely different, almost as if we were in another city.

We headed back and paddled up the Gorge in the other direction before returning the kayaks, but didn't make it very far. We had rented for an hour and a half which wasn't quite long enough to paddle both directions. If you really like it, there are options of renting by the day rather than by the hour as we did. For the bored worker, there is even a special deal for renting during your lunch hour.

STINKY FEET ARE COOL!!!!
MY ROOMMATE HAS A 5-YEAR OLD SON CALLED DELANEY. HE AND I OFTEN SIT AND CHAT ABOUT CRUCIAL THINGS.
SO, NOW YOU ARE THE ALLOSAURUS.
OH... I THOUGHT I WAS THE PTERODON.
THIS IS GREAT!
ONE DAY, I WORE MY ONLY PAIR OF SANDALS. THESE ARE MADE FROM PLASTIC AND THEY MAKE MY FEET STINK TO HIGH HEAVEN.
IN FACT I DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND HOW IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THOSE SHOES TO MAKE MY FEET REEK SO UNNATURALLY.
OH MY GOD... WHAT IS THAT SMELL?
UH...
YOUR FEET REALLY STINK!
WHY ARE YOUR FEET SO STINKY?
BECAUSE I WORE PLASTIC SANDALS ALL DAY.
YOU SHOULD WASH YOUR FEET.
GOOD IDEA.
SO I DID. BUT WASHING WAS A QUICK-FIX. SOON THE SMELL RETURNED WITH FULL FORCE.
SORRY LITTLE BUDDY. I DID MY BEST.
ARE MY FEET AS STINKY AS YOURS?
NO. YOU DIDN'T WEAR PLASTIC SHOES AND BARE FEET ALL DAY.
OH. WILL YOU SMELL MY FEET?
UH... SURE.
ARE THEY REALLY STINKY?
NEPTUNE 99
HIS FEET DID NOT STINK. DELANEY FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER QUICKLY SOUGHT TO REMEDY THIS.
HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WEAR YOUR PLASTIC SHOES BEFORE MY FEET STINK?
AT LEAST 6 HOURS.
DELANEY SPENT THE REST OF THE EVENING TRYING TO GET HIS FOOT ODOR CLOSE TO THE CALIBRE OF MINE.
MY FEET ARE PRETTY STINKY NOW.
YEP! BUT NOT AS STINKY AS MINE!
NANG.
SOMETHING WAS WRONG. I WAS NOW VERY PROUD OF MY STINKY FEET.
CAN I WEAR YOUR SANDALS TO BED? CAN I GET MY OWN PLASTIC SHOES TOMORROW?
THAT'S MY BOY!!
THE END

Stark Ravings

Nuclear Testing



Public Toilet

Children Crossing

Sign Alternatives

on-campus

Celebrate the Asian Youth Orchestra's 10th anniversary by attending thier concert, Friday, August 13 at 8p.m at UniCentre's Farquhar Auditorium. Bach, Mozart and Tchaikovsky will be featured. Tickets are available from MacPherson Box Office, 386-6121 or the GVYO Office, 360-1121.

off-campus

The James Bay Community Market brings to Victorians & visitors alike, the true of a special community happening. This Saturday, at the corner of Menzies & Superior, learn about composting from then Victoria Compost Education Centre. Outdoor & indoor composting displays and information will be on hand. Check it out from 9a.m.to 3p.m.

The Moss Street Market Children's Festival is coming up August 14. Bring the children & have some fun 'n games at this community market. While you're there pick up organically grown & locally produce, breads, vegan treats & check out the music, crafters & other unique vendors. Saturdays from 10-2.

for sale

1980 Audi 5000S for sale. Good running condition, 4-door automatic. Asking $1,500. Call 472-0546.

found

Are you missing something from your finger? A ring was found at the Gordon Head Complex and can be picked up at Campus Security, after identifying. Call 721-6683.

help wanted

Recreation Integration Victoria is looking for volunteers to assist a person with a disability to participate in a recreation or leisure pursuit. If you are able to make a 2-4 hour per week commitment, or are interested in finding out more about RIV call 477-6314.

hey you

kiya lept up in joy with glistening blood-red lips at the thought of getting off the rock

blue-green haired goddess across the hall, we miss you, may the bug exterminated. c&k

-nicole, congrats and merry flirting, straight girls aren't always what they appear.

k loves c too hee hee, but don't tell the banana bug tree.

disa, always remember the tadpole within.

do you want to look this happy (without the use of chemicals)?

come before the madness begins

• edit for the martlet
• write sports, reviews, news, adventure, arts, for the martlet
• take photos for the martlet
• be the martlet

Next issues: August 19 & September 2